

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1162

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Ellis Crabtree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those venerable and beloved citizens of our communities who, through their talents, compassion, and industriousness, bring happiness to others and contribute to the vast tapestry of artistry and humanity that is Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Ellis Crabtree is one such citizen who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all of his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a gifted woodworker and wood carver, Mr. Crabtree operates Crabby's Woodworks; and

WHEREAS, the Sneedville resident creates fine handcrafted furniture, including bluebird houses, adjustable candle holders, quilt racks, tables, and Cherry bowls; and

WHEREAS, since both of his grandfathers, as well as his father, were accomplished carpenters, Mr. Crabtree followed in the footsteps of his family by working with wood throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, he favors Shaker style furniture and two of his largest pieces include a Shaker-style desk and table; he prefers to finish his pieces with oil and wax in order to showcase the beautiful natural graining of the wood, in addition to providing easier maintenance of the furniture; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crabtree also enjoys turning wood on a lathe and building bird houses, feeders, and replica flour mills; and

WHEREAS, Ellis Crabtree is currently the President of the Clinch Artists Cooperative, and his work can be enjoyed in the gift shop at the Jubilee Center, where several of his creations are on display; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crabtree moved to Sneedville from Florida in 1999 with his loving and supportive wife, Joann, with whom he has five children, many grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ellis Crabtree exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to craft and community that are characteristic of all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crabtree is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Ellis Crabtree for his outstanding creativity, his artistic contributions to the cultural fabric of this State, and his laudable participation in the Sneedville community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.